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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE

ER...OUR SUPER-TWINS USED SUPER-BREATH TO BLOW OUT THE CANDLES AND WRECKED SOME FURNITURE! OH, WELL, WHO CARES? THUS FAR WE'VE HAD FIVE YEARS OF HAPPY MARRIED LIFE!
YES, MY DARLING SUPER-HUSBAND! AND BEST OF ALL, I KNOW THIS IS NOT A DREAM! OUR MARRIAGE REALLY HAPPENED!
Presenting...
A SUPER-ROMANCE IN THREE PARTS--
"THE SUPER-FAMILY OF STEEL!"
PART I
SUPER-HUSBAND AND WIFE!
PART II
THE BRIDE GETS SUPER-POWERS!
PART III
SECRET OF THE SUPER-FAMILY!
5th Wedding Anniversary

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Printed in U.S.A.

AT THE METROPOLIS DOCKS ONE DAY, A DISGUISED GIRL ARRIVES TO BOARD A SHIP...
MY RESERVATION IS IN A DOUBLE CABIN WITH ANOTHER GIRL I NEVER MET! HOPE SHE DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME WHEN I TAKE OFF THESE DARK GLASSES!
TAXI

SOON, AFTER MEETING HER CABIN-MATE...
HI! I'M LAURA BARTON! HMM... YOU LOOK FAMILIAR SOMEHOW! ARE YOU SOMEBODY WELL-KNOWN?
I...I DON'T THINK YOU'LL KNOW MY NAME... ER... JANE BROWN!

LISTEN, DEARIE! THAT MAY BE THE PHONY NAME YOU REGISTERED UNDER, BUT I'D KNOW YOU ANYWHERE! YOU'RE LOIS LANE, GIRL REPORTER OF THE DAILY PLANET IN METROPOLIS!
UH... YOU COULD BE WRONG!

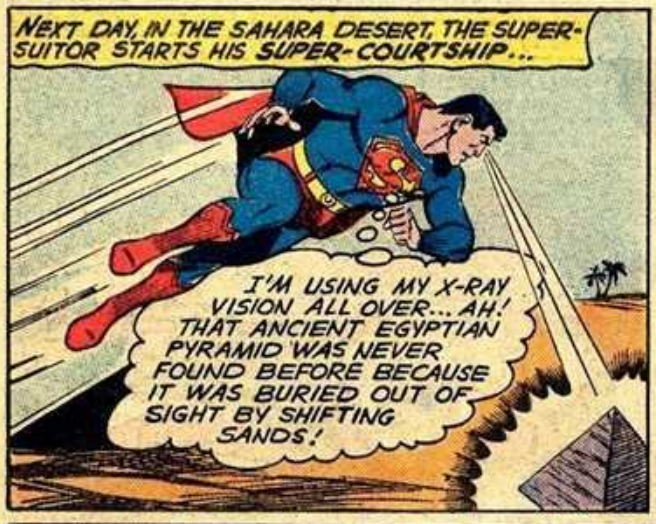
WRONG, MY EYE! YOU'RE LOIS LANE ALL RIGHT, SISTER! BUT WHY ARE YOU SNEAKING OUT OF TOWN UNDER A FALSE NAME? I'LL KEEP YOUR SECRET IF YOU TELL ME, LOIS!
PLEASE... JANE IS THE NAME! I...ER... CAN'T TELL YOU ANY MORE, LAURA!

LATER, WHILE PLAYING SHUFFLEBOARD ON DECK, LAURA TRIES TO CATCH "JANE" OFF-GUARD...
EVERYONE KNOWS LOIS LANE HOPES TO MARRY THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS HERO, SO...
LOIS... ER... JANE, ISN'T SUPERMAN WONDERFUL?
MOST GIRLS THINK SO, I GUESS!

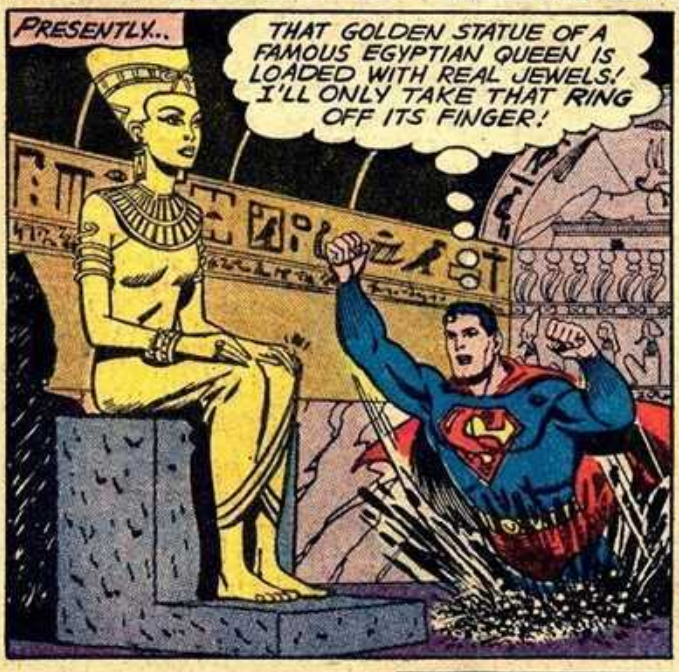
BUT I THINK HE'S CONCEITED, LAURA! EVEN IF I HAD THE CHANCE, I WOULDN'T MARRY HIM!
OH, BROTHER! IF SUPERMAN PROPOSED, LOIS WOULD YELL YES A MILLION TIMES! HMMM... MAYBE SHE GAVE UP TRYING TO WIN SUPERMAN AND IS STARTING A NEW LIFE ELSEWHERE!!??

AT BEDTIME, LAURA FLASHES A PAPER SHE BOUGHT BEFORE COMING ABOARD, AND COMPLIMENTS HER CABIN-MATE ON A FINE FEATURE STORY...
BUT, LAURA... I DID NOT WRITE THAT! I DON'T EVEN ...UH... WORK AT THE DAILY PLANET!
GOODNESS! WHAT A SMOOTH LIAR SHE IS!
DAILY PLANET
AT THE NEXT PORT, WHERE LAURA GETS OFF...
'BYE, LAURA! GOOD LUCK!
LOIS DIDN'T CONFIDE IN ME AS TO WHY SHE'S LEAVING METROPOLIS, AND HER DREAMBOAT, SUPERMAN! WHAT A... A MYSTERY!
THAT NIGHT, AT SEA, "JANE BROWN" MOODILY WALKS THE DECK ALONE...
I'M TRYING TO SOLVE MY BIG ROMANTIC PROBLEM BY FLEEING FROM THE FORMER MAN IN MY LIFE! WILL THIS TRIP HELP ME FIND SOME OTHER "PRINCE CHARMING"?
SUDDENLY, AS THE SAD-HEARTED GIRL TRIPS IN THE DARK...
OH, MY GOODNESS! I F-FELL OVERBOARD AND M-MAYBE NOBODY'S WITHIN EARSHOT TO HEAR ME YELL...
HELP... HELP!
BUT MIRACULOUSLY, A FLYING FORM APPEARS FROM NOWHERE...
LUCKILY, I SPOTTED HER DANGER WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION! SHE WAS DRAWN UNDER THE SHIP BY ITS BACKWASH!
HELP! ;GLUB!:
SHE'S RAPIDLY BEING PULLED BY SUCTION OF THE SHIP'S WHIRLING PROPELLER! HMM... IN LESS THAN A SPLIT-SECOND THE BLADES WILL HIT HER, SO...
3

...I'LL LIFT THE STERN OUT OF THE WATER, INSTEAD! AND I WON'T TILT THE SHIP ENOUGH TO DISTURB THE PASSENGERS! NOW SHE'S FLOATING SAFELY INTO CLEAR WATER WHERE I'LL PICK HER UP!
SHORTLY, BACK ON DECK...
I...I'M ALL RIGHT! WHO SAVED ME? WHY, IT... IT'S SUPERMAN!
THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE SAFE, MY DARLING! I'VE BEEN SEARCHING THE WORLD FOR YOU, FOR A VERY IMPORTANT REASON!
FIRST, LET ME REVEAL MY UNKNOWN IDENTITY TO YOU... BZZZ... BZZZ...
REALLY? YOU HAD ME FOOLED COMPLETELY! BUT...BUT WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?
I WON'T WASTE ANY TIME, MY DEAREST ONE... WILL YOU MARRY ME? NOW... TODAY!
G-GOODNESS! TH-THIS IS SO...SO SUDDEN! AND IT'S SO UNEXPECTED!
IN FACT, I'M SUSPICIOUS THAT THIS SUDDEN PROPOSAL IS A TRICK... MY ANSWER IS NO!
BUT, DARLING! I'VE TOLD YOU ABOUT MY IDENTITY! DOESN'T THAT PROVE I'M SINCERE ABOUT THIS?
WELL...MAYBE SO! BUT IF I MARRIED YOU RIGHT AWAY, I'D BE MISSING SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED -- A COURTSHIP!
HMM... IF IT'S A COURTSHIP YOU WANT, YOU'LL GET ONE NO GIRL COULD EVER FORGET!


NEXT DAY, IN THE SAHARA DESERT, THE SUPER-SUITOR STARTS HIS SUPER-COURTSHIP...
I'M USING MY X-RAY VISION ALL OVER... AH! THAT ANCIENT EGYPTIAN PYRAMID WAS NEVER FOUND BEFORE BECAUSE IT WAS BURIED OUT OF SIGHT BY SHIFTING SANDS!

I CAN SUPER-BORE UNDERGROUND AND COME UP FROM BELOW THE PYRAMID WITHOUT DAMAGING IT! MY X-RAY VISION WILL GUIDE ME TO THE TREASURE CHAMBER!

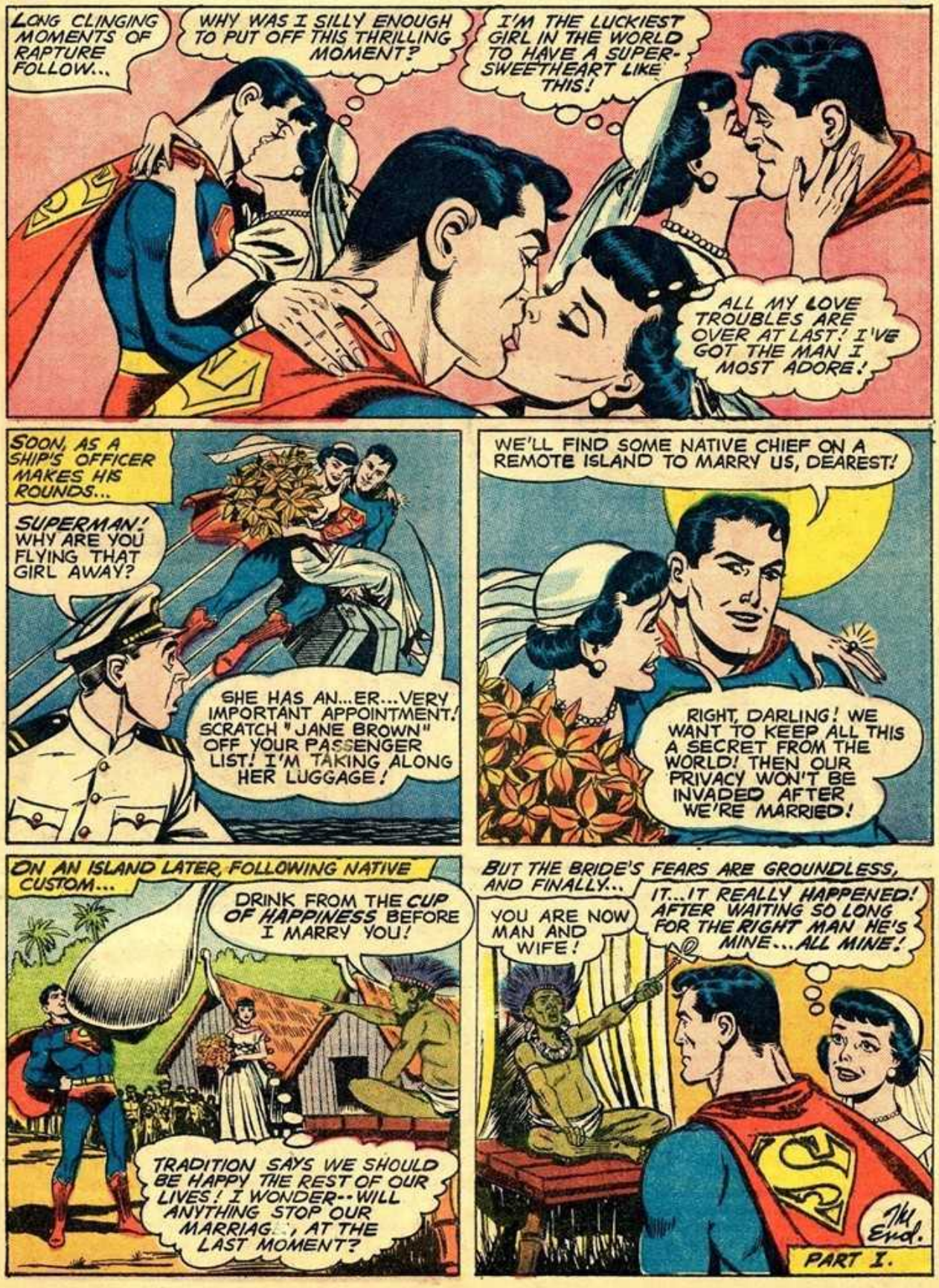

PRESENTLY...
THAT GOLDEN STATUE OF A FAMOUS EGYPTIAN QUEEN IS LOADED WITH REAL JEWELS! I'LL ONLY TAKE THAT RING OFF ITS FINGER!

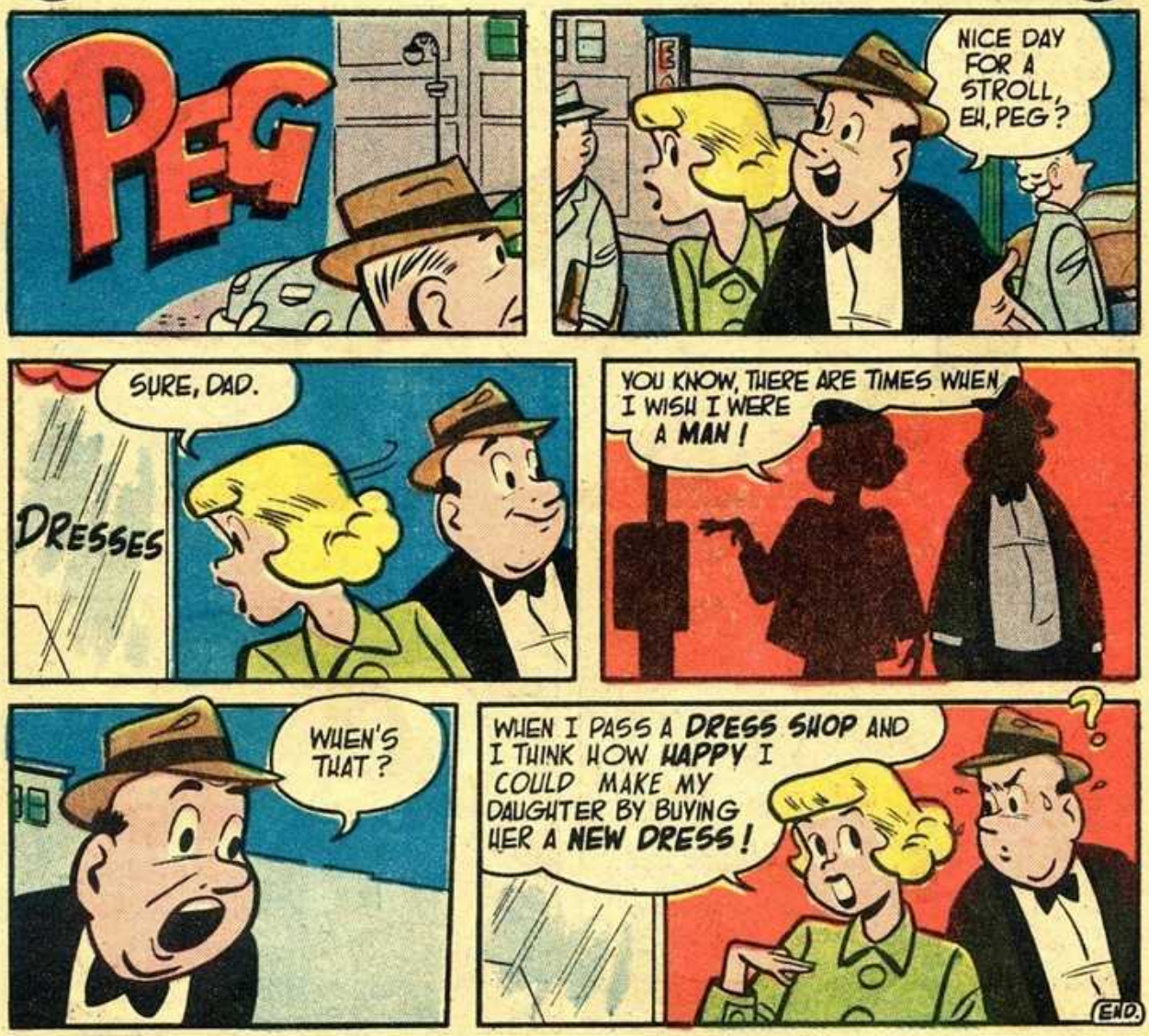
THAT NIGHT, AS THE ANCIENT RING IS DELIVERED IN PERSON...
THIS IS THE FIRST OF THREE GIFTS--IT WAS CLEOPATRA'S WEDDING RING! TO ME, YOU'RE THE QUEEN OF ALL GIRLS ON EARTH!
OH, IT... IT'S LOVELY! HOW WILL YOU EVER GIVE ME ANOTHER GIFT THAT CAN TOP IT?

THE NEXT DAY, UNDERSEA...
I FOUND THIS SUNKEN SHIP OF ANCIENT TROY! ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THIS CHEST HELD THE WEDDING GOWN OF THE MOST FAMOUS BEAUTY OF GRECIAN TIMES! BUT...ER...IT'S HALF-RUINED!

SOON, ON LAND...
I UNRAVELED THE UNHARMED SILKEN THREADS! THEY DRIED IN THE SUN! NOW MY SUPER-WEAVING WILL CONVERT THEM INTO A MODERN WEDDING GOWN!

ABOARD SHIP, THAT EVENING...
GIFT NUMBER 2! THIS SILK CAME FROM HELEN OF TROY'S WEDDING GOWN! NOW IT WILL SERVE A GIRL MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN SHE WAS!
YOU'RE... ER... MAKING ME BLUSH WITH YOUR SUPER-COMPLIMENTS!
NEXT DAY, AFTER A SUPER-SEARCH FOR THE THIRD AND LAST GIFT...
I FINALLY LOCATED THIS UNKNOWN VALLEY! IT'S THE ORIGINAL GARDEN OF EDEN WHERE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS ON EARTH GROW! I'LL PICK A WEDDING BOUQUET!
ON THE WAY BACK TO THE SHIP...
ORDINARILY, MY SUPER-FLYING CREATES HEAT FROM AIR-FRICTION! BUT MY SUPER-BREATH IS BLASTING AIR ASIDE AND FORMING AN EMPTY TUNNEL! THE FLOWERS ARE SAFE IN THIS VACUUM!
THAT NIGHT, BACK ON THE SHIP...
I PUT ON CLEOPATRA'S RING AND HELEN OF TROY'S WEDDING GOWN! AND I PACKED MY BAGS! I'M READY TO LEAVE WITH MY SUPER-ROMEO BEFORE HE...ER... CHANGES HIS MIND!
MOMENTS LATER...
THIS BOUQUET IS FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN! IT MEANS YOU'RE THE ONLY GIRL IN THE WORLD FOR ME, LIKE EVE WAS TO ADAM!
THAT MAKES IT THE MOST GLORIOUS COURTSHIP I COULD WISH FOR! I'M READY TO BE YOUR WIFE! KISS ME, MY SUPER-DARLING!
UNDER A ROMANTIC FULL MOON, AS TWO SUPER-STRONG ARMS ENFOLD HER...
I...I NEVER THOUGHT THIS SUPER-BLISSFUL MOMENT WOULD COME! I'M SO H-HAPPY I'M C-C-CRYING!


LONG CLINGING MOMENTS OF RAPTURE FOLLOW...
WHY WAS I SILLY ENOUGH TO PUT OFF THIS THRILLING MOMENT?
I'M THE LUCKIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD TO HAVE A SUPER-SWEETHEART LIKE THIS!
ALL MY LOVE TROUBLES ARE OVER AT LAST! I'VE GOT THE MAN I MOST ADORE!
SOON, AS A SHIP'S OFFICER MAKES HIS ROUNDS...
SUPERMAN! WHY ARE YOU FLYING THAT GIRL AWAY?
SHE HAS AN...ER...VERY IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT! SCRATCH "JANE BROWN" OFF YOUR PASSENGER LIST! I'M TAKING ALONG HER LUGGAGE!
WE'LL FIND SOME NATIVE CHIEF ON A REMOTE ISLAND TO MARRY US, DEAREST!
RIGHT, DARLING! WE WANT TO KEEP ALL THIS A SECRET FROM THE WORLD! THEN OUR PRIVACY WON'T BE INVADED AFTER WE'RE MARRIED!
ON AN ISLAND LATER, FOLLOWING NATIVE CUSTOM...
DRINK FROM THE CUP OF HAPPINESS BEFORE I MARRY YOU!
TRADITION SAYS WE SHOULD BE HAPPY THE REST OF OUR LIVES! I WONDER--WILL ANYTHING STOP OUR MARRIAG..., AT THE LAST MOMENT?
BUT THE BRIDE'S FEARS ARE GROUNDLESS, AND FINALLY...
YOU ARE NOW MAN AND WIFE!
IT...IT REALLY HAPPENED! AFTER WAITING SO LONG FOR THE RIGHT MAN HE'S MINE...ALL MINE!
The End.
PART I.


PEG
NICE DAY FOR A STROLL, EH, PEG?
SURE, DAD.
DRESSES
YOU KNOW, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I WISH I WERE A MAN!
WHEN'S THAT?
WHEN I PASS A DRESS SHOP AND I THINK HOW HAPPY I COULD MAKE MY DAUGHTER BY BUYING HER A NEW DRESS!
END.

STATEMENT REQUIRED by the ACT of AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED by the ACTS of MARCH 3, 1933, and JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND, LOIS LANE, published 8 times yearly at Sparta, Illinois for October 1, 1959.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, National Comics Publications, Inc.; Editor, Mort Weisinger; Managing editor, None; Business manager, J. S. Liebowitz, all at 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member must be given.) National Comics Publications, Inc., H. Donenfeld, J. S. Liebowitz, P. H. Sampliner, G. Donenfeld, S. U. Sampliner, F. Iger, I. Donenfeld, S. Iger, A. Donenfeld, J. S. Liebowitz and A. S. Herzog as Trustees for I. Donenfeld and S. Donenfeld, I. Rappaport and A. S. Herzog as Trustees for L. Liebowitz and J. H. Liebowitz, H. Donenfeld Foundation, Inc. (a non-stock corp., H. Donenfeld, Pres., I. Donenfeld, Secy.), all at 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

J. S. Liebowitz, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of Sept., 1959.

Daniel Epstein, Notary Public

(My commission expires March 30, 1961)

VARSITY VIC
DELIVER THESE AND COME RIGHT BACK. I'VE A FEW MORE ORDERS FOR YOU TO TAKE!
Florist
GOLLY, I'M GOING RIGHT BY FRAN'S HOUSE. WAIT TILL SHE SEES ME WORKING!
Florist
OH, VIC—WHAT A NICE SURPRISE! FLOWERS FOR ME!
Florist
THIS LOOKS LIKE A TREMENDOUS BOUQUET. I'D BETTER RUSH INSIDE AND GET THEM IN WATER.
B-BUT-
'BYE, AND THANKS!
Florist
FOOEY! NOW I'LL HAVE TO WORK ABOUT TWO EXTRA WEEKS TO PAY THE FLORIST FOR THE FLOWERS!
THE END

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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

PART II
The BRIDE GETS SUPER-POWERS!

WHAT WILL MARRIED LIFE BE LIKE FOR AN ORDINARY EARTH-GIRL WHO HAS WEDDED A MAN WITH SUPER-POWERS? MANY COMPLICATIONS ARISE AT FIRST FOR THE NON-SUPER HOUSEWIFE AFTER THE NEWLYWEDS SETTLE DOWN IN THEIR HOME! BUT A THRILLING DAY ARRIVES WHEN SHE BECOMES THE WIFE OF STEEL!

HOW DO YOU LIKE FLYING, DEAR?

WONDERFUL! THAT WAS THE GREATEST SUPER-GIFT YOU COULD THINK OF FOR OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY... GIVING ME SUPER-POWERS!

AS THE NEWLYWEDS LEAVE THE TRIBE...

NOW WHERE, DARLING? PEOPLE WILL QUICKLY GUESS WE'RE MARRIED IF THEY SEE US TOGETHER ON A HONEYMOON TRIP!

ON EARTH, YES... BUT NOT IN SPACE!

JUST MARRIED

BEFORE LONG, WITH HIS WIFE WRAPPED IN HIS SUPER-CAPE FOR PROTECTION AGAINST AIR-FRICTION...

I PREVIOUSLY BUILT THAT SPACESHIP AND LEFT IT IN ORBIT LIKE AN EARTH SATELLITE! IT'S BEEN LESS THAN ONE SECOND SINCE WE LEFT EARTH, SO SHE WON'T NEED AIR UNTIL SHE'S INSIDE THE SHIP!

PRESENTLY...
I'M READY, NOW THAT I CHANGED FROM MY BRIDAL GOWN INTO SOMETHING MORE SUITABLE FOR A TRIP!
THEN STRAP YOURSELF INTO THE OTHER SEAT AND WE'LL BLAST OFF FOR A GRAND TOUR OF THE UNIVERSE!

TOWARD OUTER SPACE ROARS THE ROCKETSHIP OF THE HUSBAND OF STEEL AND HIS BRIDE...
IT'S TRADITIONAL FOR GIRLS ON THEIR EARTH HONEYMOONS TO GO TO NIAGARA FALLS! BUT WE CAN'T, FOR SECRECY'S SAKE!
DON'T WORRY, MY DEAR! YOU'RE GOING TO SEE THE NIAGARA OF SPACE!

LATER, FAR FROM EARTH...
THIS WORLD'S SUN IS SO SUPER-HOT THAT METAL ORES ALL MELT DURING THE DAY!
WONDERFUL! THAT'S A MOLTEN METAL NIAGARA POURING DOWN OVER THE MOUNTAINS!

DAYS LATER, DURING THE SUPER-TOUR, THE HAPPY BRIDE IS THE FIRST GIRL FROM EARTH TO SEE THE SPACE-MEMORIAL RECENTLY MADE BY SUPERMAN...
THIS IS ONLY EMPTY SPACE, DARLING!
YES; BUT MY HOME WORLD, KRYPTON, EXISTED HERE BEFORE IT EXPLODED LONG AGO! THAT SPACE-MEMORIAL, SUPER-CARVED OUT OF AN ASTEROID, MARKS THE SPOT!
JOR-EL
LARA

JOR-EL LARA
IN HONOR OF MY KRYPTON PARENTS
THEIR SON, KAL-EL (SUPERMAN)
JOR-EL AND LARA MUST HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IN LOVE AND VERY HAPPY... BEFORE TRAGEDY STRUCK! WHAT A SUPER-MEMENTO!

WELL, LET ME SHOW YOU THE ONE YOU INSPIRE, MY DEAR WIFE! SEE THAT UNINHABITED WORLD WITH TWO MOONS? WAIT IN THE SHIP AND HIDE YOUR EYES WHILE I CARRY OUT MY PLAN!
2

SHORTLY, AFTER LEAVING THE SHIP...
NOW TO PELT THE TWO MOONS WITH THIS FLOCK OF METEORS! THEY'LL FORM A ROUGH PICTURE LIKE WHEN MACHINE-GUN BULLETS DRILL INTO WOOD!

FINALLY, REJOINING HIS WIFE...
NOW YOU CAN LOOK AT WHAT I MADE, DEAR! RECOGNIZE THAT "MAN-IN-THE-MOON" AND "GIRL-IN-THE-MOON"?
WHY, IT'S YOUR FACE AND MINE! WHAT A SUPER-REMEMBRANCE OF OUR MARRIAGE!

WHEN THE SUPER-HONEYMOON ENDS ONE DAY...
BUT, DEAR! WHY ARE YOU TAKING ME TO THE PLANET VENUS TO SETTLE DOWN?
WHAT BETTER HOME-WORLD COULD I PICK FOR YOU, MY "GODDESS OF LOVE"?

AFTER LANDING ON THE PLANET VENUS...
HERE YOU CAN BREATHE THE AIR SAFELY! VENUS IS OFTEN CALLED EARTH'S SISTER WORLD! AND HERE'S A COZY NEST I PREVIOUSLY BUILT FOR US!
OH, WHAT A DARLING COTTAGE! BUT STILL, DEAR... I'LL BE HOMESICK FOR EARTH!

NONSENSE, HONEY! LOOK... I BUILT YOU A SUPER-TV! THESE PUSH BUTTONS WILL SHOW YOU ANY SCENE ON EARTH YOU WISH!
BUT WE COULD STILL HAVE LIVED SECRETLY ON EARTH ITSELF!

WHY DIDN'T WE JUST MOVE INTO THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE? NOBODY ELSE KNOWS WHERE IT EXISTS IN THE ARCTIC!
BUT WATCH AS I TUNE INSIDE THE FORTRESS...

SEE-- A GLOWING GAS THAT FILLS THE PLACE WOULD INSTANTLY KILL YOU, DEAR! THAT GAS IS NECESSARY TO WIPE OUT ALL DANGEROUS SPACE-MICROBES BROUGHT IN RECENTLY WITH SOME SPACE-TROPHIES!
BUT WHAT ABOUT KANDOR, THE TINY CITY IN THE BOTTLE?

NONE OF THE GAS GETS INTO KANDOR! PURE AIR FROM TANKS IS PUMPED IN FOR THE PEOPLE TO BREATHE! AS YOU KNOW, A SUPER-OUTLAW NAMED BRAINIAC REMOVED THAT WHOLE CITY FROM THE PLANET KRYPTON BEFORE IT EXPLODED!

BRAINIAC USED A SHRINKING RAY TO IMPRISON KANDOR IN A BOTTLE! IT WAS SAFELY PLACED IN THE FORTRESS AFTER BRAINIAC'S DEFEAT! BUT THERE IS NO KNOWN WAY TO ENLARGE THOSE TOM THUMB PEOPLE! ONLY A FEW HAVE GAINED NORMAL SIZE UNDER UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCES!

SO I CAN'T TAKE YOU TO THE FORTRESS UNTIL THAT DEADLY GAS IS NEUTRALIZED, DEAR! BUT YOU WON'T BE LONESOME HERE IN OUR VENUS HOME WHILE I'M AWAY! MEET MISS JINGLES!
DINNER IS SERVED, MADAM! I AM YOUR ROBOT MAID!

AS THEY EAT...
TRY THOSE DELICIOUS VENUS FRUITS, MY DEAR! AND THAT TAME VENUS CANARY SINGS A DOZEN SONGS AT ONCE!
THANKS, DARLING! YOU'VE MADE A COZY HOME FOR ME!

ONE MORE THING! I'LL BE AWAY OFTEN, BUT I MADE YOU A SPECIAL SIGNAL-WATCH THAT WILL CALL ME BACK FROM ANYWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE IF YOU NEED ME!
WHY, IT'S JUST LIKE THE ULTRA-SONIC SIGNAL-WATCH THAT JIMMY OLSEN HAS!

NOT QUITE, DEAR! IT GIVES OFF A HYPER-SONIC SIGNAL THAT WON'T GET CONFUSED WITH JIMMY'S ULTRASONIC SIGNAL! AND IT TELLS VENUS TIME, NOT EARTH TIME!
BEEP-BEEP-BEEP!

THEN, AS THEY PART FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR MARRIED LIFE...
I'LL HAVE TO VISIT EARTH DAILY FROM NOW ON!
I UNDERSTAND, DEAR! YOU CAN'T NEGLECT YOUR DUTIES THERE! I'LL TRY NOT TO M-MISS YOU!

BUSILY, THE YOUNG BRIDE FILLS HER TIME IN FEMININE OCCUPATIONS...
NOW FOR A NICE BUBBLE-BATH! MY SUPER-HUBBY ALSO MADE THAT MECHANICAL BACK-SCRUBBER! BUT HERE, MISS JINGLES... PUT MY SIGNAL-WATCH ASIDE BEFORE IT GETS WET!

LATER...
NOW SET MY HAIR AND... OH, LOOK! THE VENUS CANARY MISCHIEVOUSLY SNATCHED MY WATCH! BRIGHT OBJECTS ATTRACT HIM, LIKE MAGPIES ON EARTH! HELP ME CHASE HIM, MISS JINGLES!

BUT OUTSIDE...
OH, DRAT! THAT FEATHERED THIEF IS KEEPING OUT OF REACH!
MADAM, LOOK! A STRANGE SPACE-VEHICLE IS LANDING!
5

MENACINGLY, TWO ALIENS STEP OUT...
TH-THEY HAVE RAY-GUNS! ARE THEY C-CRIMINALS?
YES, EARTHLING GIRL! OUR TRANSLATOR HELMETS ALLOW US TO UNDERSTAND AND SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE! WE SPIED ON YOU BEFORE WHILE HOVERING IN SPACE! WE WAITED TILL YOUR HUSBAND LEFT!

WE WILL TAKE YOU AS A HOSTAGE! THAT WILL FORCE YOUR SUPER-HUSBAND TO DO OUR BIDDING TO SAVE YOUR LIFE! HA! HA!
THE BIRD DROPPED MY SIGNAL-WATCH... BUT IF I RUN FOR IT, THE ALIENS WILL SH-SHOOT ME!

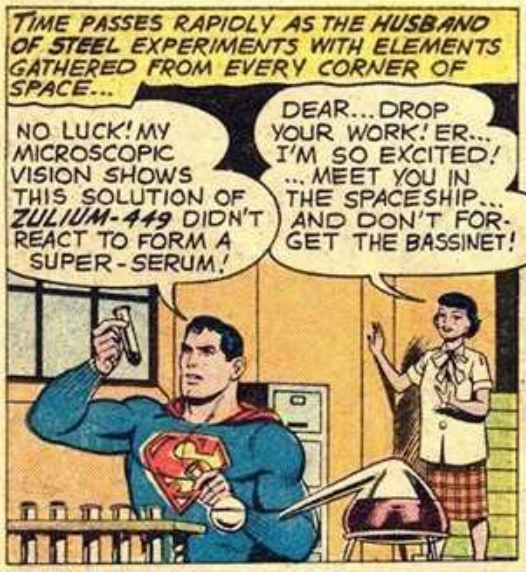
SUDDENLY, THE FAITHFUL MECHANICAL SERVANT ACTS...
STOP! YOU WILL NOT SEIZE MY MISTRESS!
THAT ROBOT'S BODY IS MADE OF A SUPER-HARD METAL! KEEP FIRING AT IT UNTIL IT EXPLODES!

BUT WHILE THE ALIENS ARE BUSY...
MISS JINGLES SACRIFICED HERSELF FOR ME! THAT GAVE ME TIME TO SNATCH UP THE SIGNAL-WATCH AND SET OFF ITS HYPERSONIC SIGNAL!
BEEP-BEEP-BEEP!

HARDLY A SECOND LATER...
LOOK OUT! IT'S HER SUPER-HUSBAND! OUR RAY-GUNS ARE USELESS AGAINST HIS INVULNERABLE BODY!
TRYING TO CAPTURE MY WIFE, EH? THAT MAKES ME SUPER-MAD! I'LL TOSS YOU BACK IN YOUR FRICTION-PROOF SPACESHIP, AND...

...AND HURL IT TO THE NEXT STAR WHERE THERE ARE SUPER-CIVILIZED WORLDS! THEIR SPACE-POLICE WILL ARREST YOU!

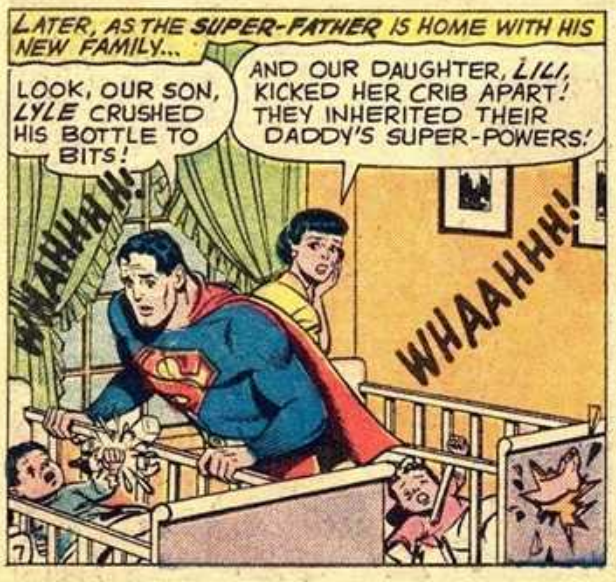
AFTER COMFORTING HIS WIFE...
I SAVED YOU THIS TIME, DEAR! BUT THE SIGNAL-WATCH MAY NOT HELP YOU NEXT TIME CROOKS THREATEN YOU! HMM... YOU'D ONLY BE SAFE IF YOU HAD SUPER-POWERS LIKE ME! I'LL TRY TO FIND A RARE SPACE-ELEMENT THAT WILL MAKE A SUPER-SERUM!
6


TIME PASSES RAPIDLY AS THE HUSBAND OF STEEL EXPERIMENTS WITH ELEMENTS GATHERED FROM EVERY CORNER OF SPACE...
NO LUCK! MY MICROSCOPIC VISION SHOWS THIS SOLUTION OF ZULIUM-449 DIDN'T REACT TO FORM A SUPER-SERUM!
DEAR... DROP YOUR WORK! ER... I'M SO EXCITED! ... MEET YOU IN THE SPACESHIP... AND DON'T FORGET THE BASSINET!

SOON, THEIR SPACESHIP SPEEDS TO WHERE...
THIS CIVILIZED PLANET, ODDLY ENOUGH CALLED "URTH", IS MORE ADVANCED THAN EARTH! THEY HAVE AN ORBITING HOSPITAL SATELLITE! I PREVIOUSLY MADE RESERVATIONS FOR YOU IN THE MATERNITY WARD!

PRESENTLY, IN THE WAITING ROOM, WHERE THE NATIVE URTHIANS USE TELEPATHY...
NERVOUS, STRANGER? IT'S YOUR FIRST, EH?
Y-YES! WILL I BE A F-FATHER OR A MOTHER? ...ER... I MEAN, WILL IT BE A B-BOY OR A G-GIRL?

THE DOOR OPENS AND...
IT'S A BOY...
...AND A GIRL!
GREAT SCOTT... TWINS!


LATER, AS THE SUPER-FATHER IS HOME WITH HIS NEW FAMILY...
LOOK, OUR SON, LYLE CRUSHED HIS BOTTLE TO BITS!
AND OUR DAUGHTER, LILI, KICKED HER CRIB APART! THEY INHERITED THEIR DADDY'S SUPER-POWERS!
WHAAHHH!
WHAAHHH!

THEY'LL WRECK THE NURSERY UNLESS I QUIET THEM! HMM... I'LL MAKE THESE RATTLES KEEP SUPER-CIRCLING ABOVE THEM FOR HOURS! THE WHIRLING BRIGHT COLORS ATTRACT THEIR ATTENTION!
GOO! GOO!
GOO!

BUT AS TIME PASSES, THE SUPER-TWINS BECOME DIFFICULT FOR THEIR NON-SUPER MOTHER TO HANDLE...
TIME FOR YOUR BATH... OH, YOU'RE FLYING OUT OF REACH, YOU... YOU SUPER-IMPS!

AFTER LURING THEM BACK WITH CANDY...
YOU DESERVE YOUR FIRST SPANKING FOR BEING SO NAUGHTY... OWWW! I... I FORGOT THEY'RE KIDS OF STEEL! I ONLY STUNG MY HAND!
I'LL FIX THAT FOR YOU, DEAR! DRINK THIS!

I FINALLY FOUND A SPECK OF THE RARE ELEMENT KORIUM-66-BETA! IT MADE A SERUM THAT WILL GIVE YOU SUPER-POWERS UNDER VENUSIAN GRAVITY CONDITIONS, WHICH ARE ALMOST LIKE EARTH'S! IT WILL ONLY WORK FOR SOMEONE WITH BLOOD-TYPE A... WHICH YOU HAVE!

MINUTES LATER...
IT WORKS, DEAR! LOOK, I CAN FLY! I'M A SUPERWOMAN!
BUT LOOK OUT! YOU'LL HIT THAT STONE MODEL OF EARTH I MADE!

THERE IS A LOUD CRASH... THEN SILENCE... FOLLOWED BY A DAZED VOICE...
WELL, ANYWAY, I...ER... PROVED I'M INVULNERABLE!
YES, THE STONE CRACKED... NOT YOUR HEAD! BUT YOU'LL NEED PRACTICE HANDLING YOUR SUPER-POWERS THE RIGHT WAY!

BUT AFTER THE SUPER-MOTHER GAINS SKILL, AND CHANGES TO A NEW SUPER-PLASTIC COSTUME SHE MADE...
AHA! YOU YOUNG RASCALS CAN'T ESCAPE YOUR BATH ANYMORE! YOU FLEW HALFWAY TO MARS BUT I CAUGHT YOU! INTO THE TUB!
ME LIKED IT BETTER BEFORE MOMMY COULD FLY!

OTHER SUPER-ADVANTAGES TURN UP FOR THE SUPER-HOUSEWIFE...
THAT ROAST'S DONE! I'LL TURN OFF THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION!
ONE GUST OF MY SUPER-BREATH DUSTS EACH ROOM IN A SECOND!

THE NEXT DAY...
MY STOVE, VACUUM CLEANER AND OTHER LABOR-SAVING DEVICES GO ON THE JUNK HEAP! I DON'T NEED THEM ANYMORE!
RIGHT, DEAR! BESIDES, NOW THAT THE DEADLY GAS CAN'T HARM YOU OR OUR SUPER-CHILDREN, WE'LL MOVE INTO THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE SOON! BUT FIRST, LET ME GO ON A CERTAIN SUPER-MISSION!

LYLE AND LILI OFTEN OBSERVE HIM WITH THEIR TELESCOPIC VISION! THEIR DADDY MENTIONED THIS MORNING ABOUT GOING TO EARTH ON SOME BIG JOB! MAYBE I'LL ALSO WATCH HIM LATER, OUT OF CURIOSITY!
OH, BOY! ME GONNA WATCH WHAT DADDY DO!

PRESENTLY, WHEN THE SUPERWOMAN HAS TIME TO TRAIN HER TELESCOPIC VISION ON EARTH...
GOODNESS! THAT GIRL IN METROPOLIS WAS TAKING A SUN-BATH ON HER ROOF WHEN A FACTORY SMOKE-STACK SUDDENLY CRACKED! IT'S TOPPLING TOWARD HER! LUCKILY MY SUPER-HUSBAND IS FLYING OVER!
HELP!

A MOMENT LATER...
HE SAW HER DANGER AND RUSHED TO HER RESCUE! HE'S PUSHING THE SMOKE-STACK UPRIGHT! HE CAN REPAIR IT EASILY!

THEN, AS THE GIRL THANKS HER SUPER-RESCUER IN AN IMPULSIVE WAY...
WHY, I RECOGNIZE THAT GIRL... IT'S LANA LANG! EVERY-ONE KNOWS WHOM SHE WOULD LIKE TO MARRY... AND SHE'S KISSING MY SUPER-HUSBAND NOW, THE... THE HUSSY!

LATER, IT IS AN ANGRY SUPER-WIFE WHO GREETS HER HUSBAND'S RETURN...
DEAR! YOU'RE MAD! WHAT'S WRONG!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL LANA YOU'RE A MARRIED MAN? SHE'LL KEEP AFTER YOU IF SHE THINKS YOU'RE STILL SINGLE!

BUT YOU LET LANA KISS YOU! I SUPPOSE YOU LIKE HER KISSES MORE THAN MINE! THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T TELL HER YOU HAVE A WIFE, YOU... YOU SUPER-TWO-TIMER!
DEAR, IT'S NO USE THROWING THAT CHINA-WARE AT SUPER-SPEED! AIR FRICTION IS MAKING IT MELT BEFORE IT REACHES ME!

NOW CALM DOWN AND I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING!
NO! I WON'T LISTEN! I-I HATE YOU! I'LL TAKE THE TWINS INTO SPACE! FOLLOW ME WITH YOUR TELESCOPIC VISION AND YOU'LL SEE WHAT I THINK OF YOU NOW!

NEXT, IN A FURY OF SUPER-JEALOUSY...
GO BACK TO LANA LANG IF YOU WANT! I'M LEAVING YOU... FOREVER!
NOW SHE'S USING THE HEAT OF HER X-RAY VISION TO BURN A MESSAGE IN A METEOR FOR ME TO READ... OH, NO! N-NOT THAT!

READER, HAVE YOU GUESSED HOW THIS QUARREL BETWEEN THE MAN AND WIFE OF STEEL WILL TURN OUT? TURN TO PART II FOR THE ASTOUNDING ENDING!

Dear Editor:
Why doesn't Lois Lane snatch Clark Kent's glasses and take them to an optometrist to examine them? Then she would be able to solve the secret of SUPERMAN's identity. —Joan Barnett, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

(Lois did try exactly that strategy in a story published several years ago in SUPERMAN Magazine. But, as usual, Clark was able to outwit her by cleverly substituting an ordinary pair of glasses. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
I enjoyed the story, "Baby Lois Lane", in which she grew younger and younger until she became an infant. How about involving Lois in some situation that turns her into an old woman? I think it would be very interesting. —J. Higgins, Philadelphia, Pa.

(You forget that the first issue of LOIS LANE Comics featured Lois turning into an old hag and becoming "The Witch of Metropolis." —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
Since Clark Kent was a good friend of both Lana Lang in Smallville and Lois Lane in Metropolis, wouldn't it seem strange to Lois and Lana that Clark lived in Smallville when SUPERBOY lived there and then moved to Metropolis when SUPERMAN lived there? Shouldn't they be suspicious of this "coincidence"? —Dennis Farrell, Roslyn Heights, N. Y.

(We don't go along with your reasoning. Inasmuch as everyone considers Clark Kent to be a close friend of SUPERBOY, it seems only natural that Clark moved to Metropolis at the same time SUPERMAN did. In other words, both girls often think that Clark moved to Metropolis to be near his "idol" —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
In the story, "Alias Lois Lane", you show a scene wherein Lois pins a medal on SUPERMAN. How could this be if his suit is indestructible and no pin can pierce its fabric. Let's see you wiggle out of this boo-boo! —Kathleen Williams, Hollis, N. Y.

(If you'll re-read the story, you'll note that Lois refers to the medal as "this special medal." It was "special" because it was fastened on to SUPERMAN's suit with a quick-drying glue. Naturally, after the presentation, he ripped the medal off and stored it among his trophies. Other readers who wrote us about this point include Jeffrey Javerbaum, Newark, N. J. and Ira Goldstein, New York City. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
In "Alias Lois Lane", you showed SUPERMAN fusing the shutter of the camera with his X-ray vision. But the story clearly states that the shutter was made of lead—so how could his X-rays affect it? —Jimmy Horwitz, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

(It looks as if you have an open-and-shutter case against us. We plead guilty as charged. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
In your story, "The Shocking Secret of Lois Lane", Lois wears a square, lead box on her head to hide her face. When SUPERMAN used saws to cut the box open it showed the sides were pretty thick. Well, my point is: a LEAD box that thick would weigh about 70 lbs. How could Lois' body support it. I think you goofed. —Andy Rahl, Evanston, Ill.

(Did you ever read the famous classic, "The Man in the Iron Mask"? And did you ever visit a museum and feel the weight of a visored helmet worn by knights in medieval times? Lois' helmet may have been uncomfortable, but it certainly was wearable. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
In the story, "Lois Lane's Parents", Lois tries to prevent her marriage to SUPERMAN from taking place. But in other stories she is always trying to marry him. Can you explain this inconsistency? —Robbie Church, Houston, Texas.

(Although Lois would like to be SUPERMAN's wife more than anything else in the world, she will not accept him unless he proposes of his own volition. In this story she felt SUPERMAN intended to go through with the marriage because he felt sorry for her. And, because our girl Lois is a proud lass, she wouldn't want the Man of Steel to marry her out of pity. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
I enjoy the occasional glimpses we get of Lucy Lane, Lois' sister. Can you give us more of her? —Alan Dreyfus, Great Neck, N. Y.

(Lucy Lane is the object of Jimmy Olsen's affections; you'll find her in every issue of JIMMY OLSEN Comics. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:
I've been reading the advance announcements for the three-part story in your February issue, "The Super-Family of Steel", in which Lois apparently marries SUPERMAN. You claim the marriage is real and is not a hoax or a dream. And the characters aren't robots. Well, we all know that at the end of the story, Lois will still be single, or there can't be any future stories. So how will you ever get out of this dilemma? —Edna Simmons, Chicago, Ill.

(Read Part 3 in this issue and find out. And everybody, tell us if you think the story lived up to our promises. —Ed.)

JERRY
THE JITTERBUG
SURE, TIMMY, I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!
THIS KID I'M A 'SITTER' FOR INSISTS THAT I DRESS FOR THE SPORT THAT'S IN SEASON WHILE I'M WITH HIM!
COME ON, CATCH!
AND THEN FALL ARRIVES ....
FOOTBALL! THAT KID HAS ME GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES!
AND STILL LATER--
OKAY! OKAY!
THIS IS THE LAST STRAW-- INDOOR SWIMMING SEASON!
THE END

COMING...

Adventure COMICS FEB. ON SALE DEC. 31st

Featuring... SOLAR BOY, A YOUTH WITH SUPER-POWERS WHO REPLACES SUPERBOY AND BECOMES...

"KRYPTO'S MEAN MASTER!"

Extra! AQUAMAN, KING OF THE SEA, FINALLY GETS A BOY PAL WHEN HE MEETS... The KID from ATLANTIS!"

ACTION COMICS FEB. ON SALE DEC. 31st

How did SUPERMAN build his FORTRESS of SOLITUDE?

WHY DID HE ONCE STATION IT IN OUTER SPACE? WHY WAS IT ONCE LOCATED AT THE EARTH'S CORE?

For the amazing answers, read..."SECRETS of the FORTRESS of SOLITUDE!"

Extra: SUPERGIRL gets a super-pet--SUPERCAT!

SUPERBOY COMICS MAR. ON SALE JAN. 5th

In this issue we begin a brand-new series that takes you back to the planet KRYPTON before it exploded! You'll see JOR-EL and LARA and their baby, KAL-EL, before he was sent to Earth to become SUPERBOY!

A Never-Before-Told Story... "LIFE ON KRYPTON!"

SUPERMAN DC

SUPER-ATTRACTIONS!

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE PART III

THE SECRET OF THE SUPER-FAMILY

EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE A SUPERMAN AND A SUPERWOMAN, THE TWO HOMESTEADERS ON THE PLANET VENUS ARE STILL HUMAN AT HEART! JEALOUSY OVER LANA LANG HAS BROKEN UP THEIR BLISSFUL MARRIED LIFE TOGETHER! IS THERE NO WAY TO PATCH UP THEIR QUARREL AND RE-UNITE THE HUSBAND AND WIFE OF STEEL? MANY STARTLING SURPRISES LIE AHEAD!

PLEASE, DEAR! DON'T USE THE SUPER-POWERS I GAVE YOU TO FLY AWAY FROM ME! PLEASE COME BACK TO OUR HOME!

FOLLOW ME, CHILDREN! WE'LL GO AND LIVE ON THAT OTHER WORLD, URTH, WHERE YOU WERE BORN! WELL NEVER RETURN TO YOUR SUPER-FATHER... THAT'S FINAL!

AFTER THE ANGRY MOTHER AND HER TWO SUPER-CHILDREN LAND IN A CITY ON THE ALIEN PLANET URTH...

NOW, CHILDREN, LET ME EXPLAIN WHY WE...ER...LEFT YOUR FATHER! YOU SEE, HE WENT TO EARTH THIS MORNING AND...UH...DID SOMETHING BAD, AS YOU PROBABLY SAW WITH YOUR TELESCOPIC VISION!

SURE, MOMMY! ME SAW NAUGHTY DADDY COME TO THIS WORLD AND...

..."SMASH UP FUNNY THINGS SPINNING IN SPACE"...

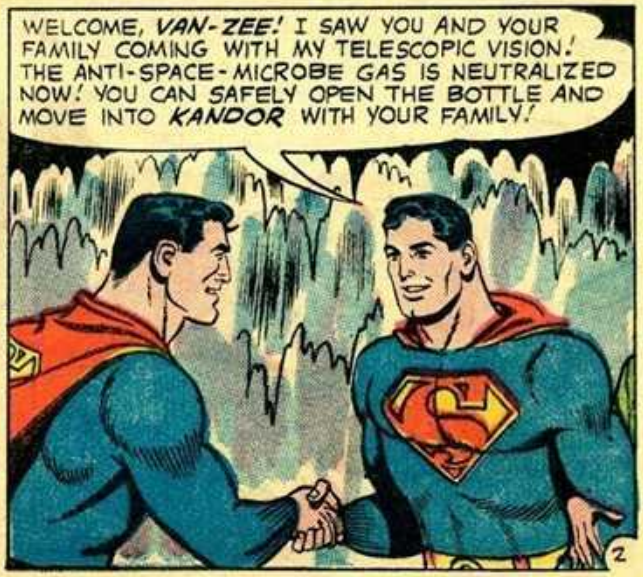
NONSENSE, LYLE! AS I WELL KNOW, YOUR DADDY WAS ON EARTH RESCUING LANA LANG... AND COLLECTING A KISS! YOU'RE MAKING UP STORIES!
NO, MOMMY! ME SAW SAME THING AS LYLE DID!

NAUGHTY CHILDREN! I'LL PROVE YOU'RE BOTH TELLING TALES! I'LL USE TELEPATHIC SPEECH AND QUESTION THIS URTHIAN...
SIR! WAS MY FLYING HUSBAND SEEN HERE AT YOUR WORLD TODAY?
WHY, YES, MADAM!

AT OUR REQUEST, HE SMASHED UP USELESS OLD SATELLITES WE PUT IN ORBIT LONG AGO! THEY HAD BECOME A HAZARD TO OUR SPACESHIPS!
OH M-MY G-G-GOODNESS! NOW I SEE! MY HUSBAND SAID HE WAS GOING TO URTH--NOT EARTH! THE NAMES SOUND EXACTLY ALIKE!

SHORTLY, BACK ON VENUS...
DARLING! I FOUND OUT YOU'RE INNOCENT! PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR MY SILLY JEALOUSY OVER LANA LANG!
FORGET IT, DEAR! IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT YOU WRECKED OUR COTTAGE! WE'LL MOVE INTO THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE NOW!

LATER, WHEN THE SUPER-FAMILY REACHES EARTH AND ENTERS THE ARCTIC SUPER-STRONGHOLD...
THE DOOR'S OPEN! AND OF COURSE THE ONE WHO REALLY RESCUED LANA AND WAS KISSED BY HER WAS... SUPERMAN! THE ORIGINAL ONE!


WELCOME, VAN-ZEE! I SAW YOU AND YOUR FAMILY COMING WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION! THE ANTI-SPACE-MICROBE GAS IS NEUTRALIZED NOW! YOU CAN SAFELY OPEN THE BOTTLE AND MOVE INTO KANDOR WITH YOUR FAMILY!

I BROUGHT LOIS LANE... THE REAL ONE... TO GET THE FULL STORY OF YOU TWO! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SHE'S MEETING HER PERFECT DOUBLE FACE-TO-FACE!
GOODNESS, SYLVIA! LOOKING AT YOU IS LIKE LOOKING AT MY OWN IMAGE IN A MIRROR! WHY, WE COULD BE TWIN-SISTERS!

SURPRISED, READERS? DID YOU GUESS THAT THIS MARRIED COUPLE WAS NOT THE **REAL SUPERMAN** AND **LOIS LANE**, BUT ONLY THEIR **EXACT** DOUBLES? IF YOU DIDN'T GUESS THE TRUTH, YOU WILL SEE THAT **ALL THE CLUES** WERE PROVIDED AS WE NOW TURN THE CLOCK BACK AND TELL YOU THE FULL STORY OF **VAN-ZEE** AND **SYLVIA**, DOUBLES FOR **SUPERMAN** AND **LOIS LANE**! IT ALL BEGAN SOME TIME AGO IN **KANDOR**, THE TINY CITY IN THE BOTTLE, WHERE **VAN-ZEE** SPENT HIS YOUTH AND GREW TO MANHOOD...

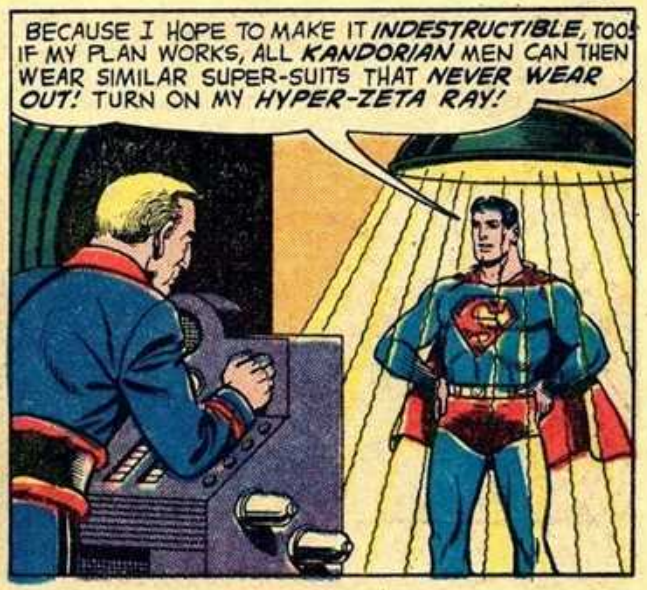
THE TINY MAN OFTEN SAW SUPERMAN OUTSIDE OF THE BOTTLE...
IT'S IMPORTANT TO CHECK THE AIR-HOSE EVERY DAY!
I'VE MADE A SPECIAL STUDY OF SUPERMAN FOR YEARS! HE'S MY IDOL!

DOWN IN A TINY LABORATORY, AS VAN-ZEE EXPLAINED TO A FRIEND...
MY TELESCOPIC VIEWER FOLLOWS SUPERMAN EVERYWHERE ON EARTH! AND SINCE I'VE LEARNED THE EARTH LANGUAGE, I USE THIS RADIO TO PICK UP EARTHLY SOUNDS AND VOICES!
WHOOSH!

SUPERMAN, WHO CAME TO EARTH AS A BABY, GREW UP TO BE ITS SUPER-HERO! I'M ESPECIALLY PROUD OF HIM BECAUSE HE'S A RELATIVE OF MINE!
OH, THAT EXPLAINS WHY YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE HIM!

I'VE ALSO LEARNED ABOUT SUPERMAN'S FRIENDS! HOW CAN HE KEEP AVOIDING MARRIAGE WITH THAT GIRL REPORTER? LOIS LANE IS SO SWEET... LOVELY... UH... YOU SEE, I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER!

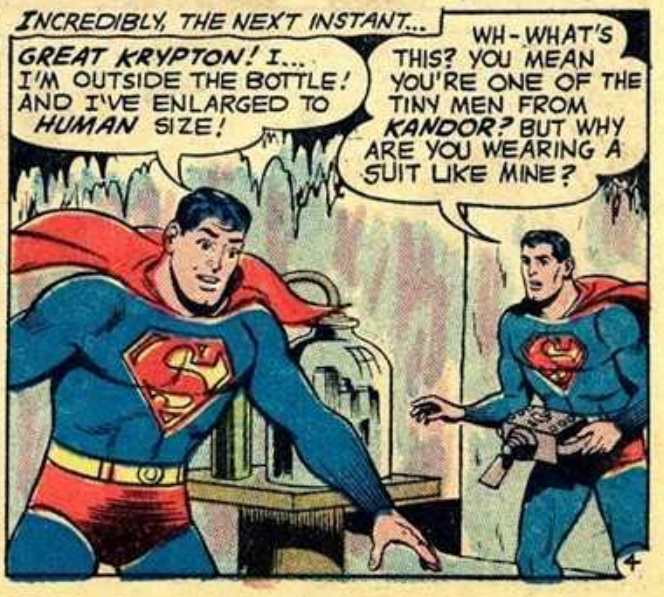
WELL, I MUST FORGET HER! WHY, I CAN NEVER GET OUT OF THIS GLASS BOTTLE TO EVEN MEET HER! BUT NOW TO PUT ON THIS UNIFORM MY DUPLICATOR LOOM JUST WOVE!
BUT WHY IS IT AN EXACT REPLICA OF SUPERMAN'S UNIFORM?

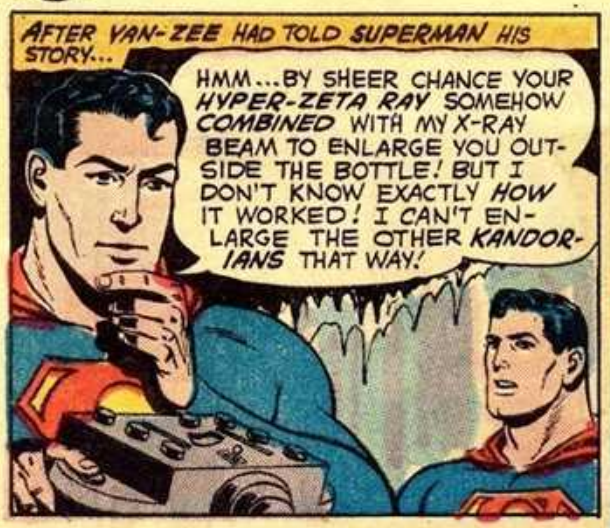

BECAUSE I HOPE TO MAKE IT INDESTRUCTIBLE, TOO! IF MY PLAN WORKS, ALL KANDORIAN MEN CAN THEN WEAR SIMILAR SUPER-SUITS THAT NEVER WEAR OUT! TURN ON MY HYPER-ZETA RAY!

MEANWHILE, SUPERMAN HAS RETURNED TO HIS FORTRESS TO AGAIN PONDER ABOUT KANDOR...
I WONDER...IS THERE ANY WAY TO HELP THOSE TINY PEOPLE FROM MY NATIVE WORLD TO REGAIN THEIR NORMAL SIZE? A CRIMINAL FROM KANDOR ONCE ENLARGED HIMSELF WITH THIS DEVICE!
BRAINIAC'S REDUCING RAY
ZAK-KUL'S ENLARGING RAY

BUT THE ILLIUM-349 THAT POWERED IT BURNED OUT! HMM...I'LL USE MY X-RAY VISION IN CASE ONE SPECK OF THAT RARE ELEMENT IS STILL LEFT...OOPS! I AIMED CARELESSLY...PART OF THE X-RAY BEAM STRUCK KANDOR! I HOPE...

...IT DIDN'T DO ANY HARM DOWN THERE!
VAN-ZEE! WHAT IS YOUR HYPER-ZETA RAY DOING TO YOU? YOU'RE...UH... VANISHING!


INCREDIBLY, THE NEXT INSTANT...
GREAT KRYPTON! I... I'M OUTSIDE THE BOTTLE! AND I'VE ENLARGED TO HUMAN SIZE!
WH-WHAT'S THIS? YOU MEAN YOU'RE ONE OF THE TINY MEN FROM KANDOR? BUT WHY ARE YOU WEARING A SUIT LIKE MINE?


AFTER VAN-ZEE HAD TOLD SUPERMAN HIS STORY...
HMM...BY SHEER CHANCE YOUR HYPER-ZETA RAY SOMEHOW COMBINED WITH MY X-RAY BEAM TO ENLARGE YOU OUTSIDE THE BOTTLE! BUT I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY HOW IT WORKED! I CAN'T ENLARGE THE OTHER KANDORIANS THAT WAY!

LIKE SUPERMAN, VAN-ZEE HAD ALSO GAINED SUPER-POWERS IN THE EARTHLY ENVIRONMENT...
YOU'VE BECOME INVULNERABLE AND YOUR COSTUME IS NOW INDESTRUCTIBLE! BUT BE CAREFUL, VAN-ZEE! FLYING ISN'T EASY TO MASTER!
SO I...ER...SEE! I JUST MISSED CRASHING INTO THAT STONE PILLAR!

AFTER PRACTICING WITH HIS NEW SUPER-POWERS, VAN-ZEE WAS SHOWN ALL THE FORTRESS EXHIBITS...
THE LOIS LANE ROOM! HMM...THIS GIRL LOVES YOU DEARLY, SUPERMAN! WHY DON'T YOU MARRY HER?
BECAUSE THEN CRIMINALS WHO HATE ME WOULD CONSTANTLY THREATEN HER LIFE!
LOIS LANE RO

HMM...IF LOIS MARRIED ME, BRAINIAC'S SHRINKING RAY COULD REDUCE US BOTH IN SIZE AND WE COULD LIVE SAFELY IN KANDOR! SUPERMAN, I...I LOVE LOIS! MIND IF I...ER... COURT HER?
GO AHEAD, VAN-ZEE! MY DUTIES ON EARTH PREVENT ME FROM ASKING HER TO BE MY WIFE! I...ER... WISH YOU... GOOD LUCK! SHE'S A WONDERFUL GIRL!

SPEEDING TO METROPOLIS, SUPERMAN'S DOUBLE PROPOSED TO THE GIRL OF HIS DREAMS!
SUPERMAN!
EVEN YOU'RE FOOLED, MISS LANE! SEE...MARRYING ME WOULD BE JUST LIKE MARRYING SUPERMAN!

AFTER VAN-ZEE EXPLAINS ABOUT HIMSELF...
OH, I'M SORRY, VAN-ZEE! I COULD ONLY MARRY THE ORIGINAL SUPERMAN!
I...I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! YOU LOVE SUPERMAN FOR QUALITIES OTHER THAN HIS LOOKS AND SUPER-POWERS! BUT HOW WILL I EVER FIND A GIRL LIKE YOU BACK IN KANDOR?

WAIT... IF YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH MY LOOKS, YOU COULD LOVE MY DOUBLE, TOO! AND EVERY-BODY ON EARTH HAS A DOUBLE THEY SAY!
IT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA, LOIS! I'LL SEARCH THE CITIES OF EARTH WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION AND FIND YOUR TWIN!

FINALLY, TO VAN-ZEE'S JOY, IN A BUSTLING MID-WESTERN CITY...
THERE SHE IS... AN EXACT DOUBLE OF LOIS LANE! AND IT... IT'S LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, FOR ME! I'LL FIND OUT WHO SHE IS FROM THE CITY REGISTER!

THAT NIGHT, OUTSIDE A WINDOW OF HER HOME...
SHE'S SYLVIA DEWITT, RICH YOUNG HEIRESS! IT WILL BE JUST LIKE HAVING LOIS FOR MY WIFE! I'LL MEET HER WHEN SHE'S ALONE!
GOOD! THEN IT'S ALL ARRANGED, SIR ESSEX! YOU'LL TAKE HER TO ENGLAND TO LIVE IN YOUR CASTLE!

BUT TO THE LISTENER'S DISMAY...
JOLLY GOOD DEAL, BY JOVE! YOUR DAUGHTER CAN SET THE WEDDING DAY TO MARRY ME! WELL, PIP, PIP!
OH, NO! SYLVIA IS ENGAGED TO ANOTHER MAN! MY... MY PLAN IS R-RUINED! I'LL GO!

HEARTBROKEN, VAN-ZEE LEFT TOO SOON TO HEAR WHAT FOLLOWED...
BUT FATHER! YOU AND SIR ESSEX ARRANGED THE MARRIAGE LIKE... A... A BUSINESS DEAL! I... I WON'T MARRY THAT... THAT COLD FISH!... SOB!
NONSENSE, SYLVIA! HE'S A GOOD CATCH!

SYLVIA THOUGHT OTHERWISE, AND THAT NIGHT...
I'LL RUN AWAY! THERE'S A SHIP SAILING FROM METROPOLIS IN THE MORNING! I'LL FLY THERE TONIGHT AND REGISTER UNDER THE FALSE NAME OF JANE BROWN! I'LL ALSO WEAR DARK GLASSES SO NO-BODY WILL RECOGNIZE ME!

THE NEXT DAY, AS HEARTSICK VAN-ZEE USED HIS TELESCOPIC VISION FOR A LAST FAREWELL LOOK AT HIS LOST LOVE...
SIR ESSEX! SYLVIA IS GONE! SHE ONLY LEFT A NOTE THAT SHE WON'T MARRY YOU! BUT I'LL HIRE ACE DETECTIVES TO TRACK DOWN THE SILLY GIRL!
AH! IF SHE REJECTED HIM, I'M FREE TO PROPOSE TO HER AFTER I FIND HER!

READERS, YOU CAN NOW SEE THAT SYLVIA HAD TOLD THE TRUTH TO HER CABIN-MATE ABOARD THE SHIP!
YOU'RE LOIS LANE, GIRL REPORTER!
UH...YOU COULD BE WRONG!
I'VE OFTEN BEEN MISTAKEN FOR LOIS LANE!

AND LATER, WHEN VAN-ZEE WHISPERED IN SYLVIA'S EAR, IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH SUPERMAN'S SECRET IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT!
I CAME FROM A TINY BOTTLED CITY IN SUPERMAN'S FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE! I'M NOT SUPERMAN... ONLY HIS DOUBLE!
REALLY? YOU HAD ME FOOLED COMPLETELY!

CAN YOU GUESS WHY SYLVIA WAS SUSPICIOUS AT FIRST OF HER SUPER-SUITOR?
...I'M SUSPICIOUS THAT THIS SUDDEN PROPOSAL IS A TRICK! MY ANSWER IS NO!
HMM... MAYBE MY FATHER TRACED ME! HE MIGHT HAVE HIRED A CLEVER HYPNOTIST TO FOOL ME INTO THINKING HE'S A MAN WITH SUPER-POWERS WHO SAVED ME FROM DANGER! IS IT A SCHEME TO LURE ME HOME?

BUT WHEN VAN-ZEE LEFT WITH HIS ARDENT PROMISE...
IF HE BRINGS ME GENUINE SUPER-GIFTS, I'LL KNOW IT'S NOT A HYPNOTIC ILLUSION! HE'LL PROVE HE'S REALLY MY "PRINCE CHARMING" AND I'LL GET THE COURTSHIP I'VE ALWAYS LONGED FOR... SIGH!

READERS, YOU MUST ADMIT NOW THAT ALL THE CLUES WERE GIVEN YOU! DID YOU NOTICE THAT VAN-ZEE NEVER ONCE CALLED HIS BRIDE "LOIS"! NOR DID SYLVIA CALL HIM "SUPERMAN"! AND JUST AS LOIS LOVES SUPERMAN, IT WAS HARDLY UNNATURAL FOR LOIS' DOUBLE TO FALL IN LOVE WITH SUPERMAN'S DOUBLE AFTER HE HAD SWEPT HER OFF HER FEET WITH HIS SUPER-COURTSHIP! BUT IT WAS ALL DONE IN SECRET, SO THAT THE SHIP'S OFFICER WAS FOOLED WHEN HE SAW THE HAPPY COUPLE LEAVE...

SUPERMAN! WHY ARE YOU FLYING THAT GIRL AWAY?
PSST, VAN-ZEE! DON'T TELL HIM WHO YOU REALLY ARE! IF MY FATHER HEARD OF THIS, HE'D TRY TO HAVE OUR MARRIAGE ANNULLED!

AND DURING THEIR SPACE TRIP, WHEN THE HONEY-MOONERS SAW THE SUPER-MEMORIAL THAT VAN-ZEE DID NOT MAKE...
JOR-EL AND LARA MUST HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IN LOVE AND VERY HAPPY BEFORE TRAGEDY STRUCK! WHAT A SUPER-MEMENTO!
JOR-EL
LARA
HM... SYLVIA IS IMPRESSED BY SUPERMAN'S FEAT! I'LL TRY TO EQUAL IT BY CARVING HER FACE AND MINE SOMEWHERE!

AFTER SETTLING DOWN WITH SYLVIA IN THEIR VENUS HOME, VAN-ZEE HAD A DAILY CHORE TO PERFORM IN THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE...
THAT MICROBE-GAS WILL TAKE A LONG TIME TO KILL ALL THE SPACE-BACTERIA, VAN-ZEE!
I'LL KEEP CHECKING KANDOR'S AIR-HOSE FOR YOU, SUPERMAN! YOU GO ON YOUR PATROL AS USUAL!

THEN, ON THE FATEFUL DAY WHEN SYLVIA USED HER TELESCOPIC VISION BEFORE THE BIG QUARREL WITH HER HUSBAND...
HMM... I TUNED IN ON LOIS LANE, MY DOUBLE, OUT OF CURIOSITY! PITTSDALE IS HER HOME TOWN! SUPERMAN IS FLYING HER THERE FROM METROPOLIS!
PITTSDALE

BUT EVEN WITH HER SUPER-HEARING, SYLVIA WAS UNABLE TO PICK UP THEIR VOICES ACROSS AIRLESS SPACE...
MY MASTER TOLD ME TO APOLOGIZE FOR NOT BRINGING YOU HERE IN PERSON, MISS LANE!
OH, I KNOW SUPERMAN COULDN'T LEAVE HIS PATROL OF METROPOLIS JUST TO DROP ME OFF FOR A VISIT TO MY PARENTS! NATURALLY, HE SENT YOU, ONE OF HIS SUPERMAN ROBOTS!

AND STILL LATER, THE JEALOUS SUPER-WIFE ON VENUS WAS UNAWARE THAT SHE MISTOOK THE REAL SUPERMAN, STILL IN METROPOLIS, FOR HER HUSBAND, WHO WAS ON URTH!
WHY, I RECOGNIZE THE GIRL... IT'S LANA LANG! EVERYONE KNOWS WHOM SHE WOULD LIKE TO MARRY... AND SHE'S KISSING MY SUPER-HUSBAND NOW, THE... THE HUSSY! BEFORE HE LEFT TOWN WITH LOIS, SUPERMAN MUST HAVE ASKED VAN-ZEE TO SECRETLY PATROL IN HIS PLACE! NOBODY CAN TELL THEM APART, NOT EVEN LANA LANG! BUT WHY DID MY HUSBAND LET HER KISS HIM?

ALL CLEAR, READERS? NOW LET'S RETURN TO THE PRESENT...
VAN-ZEE GAVE ME THE REST OF THE SUPER-SERUM SYLVIA USED! I'LL DRINK IT AND BECOME A SUPERWOMAN! THEN WE'LL HAVE A TALK, SUPERMAN!
ER... YES, LOIS! BUT NOW TO USE BRAINIAC'S SHRINKING RAY ON OUR SUPER-DOUBLES!
SOON, AFTER SUPERMAN MAKES A TINY CAPSULE...
THAT PARACHUTE WILL EASE THEIR LANDING DOWN IN KANDOR! UNDER KRYPTON'S HEAVY-GRAVITY CONDITIONS IN THE BOTTLE, THEY WILL LOSE THEIR SUPER-POWERS!
BUT I'LL GAIN SUPER-POWERS! I DRANK THE SERUM! NOW I CAN BECOME MRS. SUPERMAN BECAUSE I'LL BE SAFE FROM THREATS AS A SUPERWOMAN!
GREAT SCOTT! DON'T TRY FLYING, LOIS... OH, TOO LATE!
G-GOODNESS! WHY... UH... I HAVE NO SUPER-POWERS!
POOR LOIS! VAN-ZEE TOLD ME THE SUPER-SERUM WOULD ONLY WORK FOR HUMANS WITH BLOOD-TYPE A! AND I KNEW FROM PREVIOUS MEDICAL RECORDS THAT LOIS HAD BLOOD-TYPE O!
MEANWHILE, DOWN IN THE MINIATURE CITY IN THE BOTTLE, AS A TOM THUMB FAMILY MOVES INTO ITS NEW HOME...
OH, VAN-ZEE! IT'S SO COZY! I LIKE THESE KRYPTON-STYLE CLOTHES, TOO! I KNOW I'LL ALWAYS BE HAPPY EVEN THOUGH I WAS YOUR... ER... SECOND CHOICE FOR A WIFE... AFTER LOIS LANE!
NO, YOU'RE REALLY FIRST WITH ME NOW! I LOVE YOU MORE THAN I COULD EVER HAVE LOVED LOIS!
I BELIEVE YOU, DEAR! AND IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT WE NO LONGER HAVE SUPER-POWERS HERE IN KANDOR! I ONLY HOPE SUPERMAN AND LOIS LANE WILL BE AS HAPPY AS WE ARE, SOMEDAY! BUT LOIS LOOKS SO SAD...
MY DOUBLE IS... IS LUCKIER THAN I AM! SYLVIA WAS THE WIFE OF A SUPER-HUSBAND LIKE SUPERMAN FOR A WHILE! W-WILL THAT GLORIOUS DAY EVER C-COME FOR... ME???
9
The End

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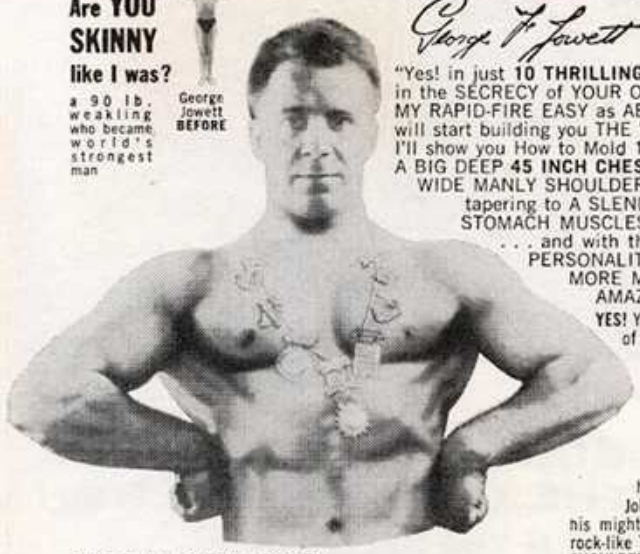

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John Sill BEFORE

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